

# The Fort Erie Times

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Thursday, December 24, 2015

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## Owner of Crystal Beach park has died

Van Hall will be remembered for his passion

**2**



## Holiday lights

Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright contest winners announced

**13**



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The Ridgeway Lions Club, along with the support of Ridgeway and Crystal Beach Community churches held a free community Christmas dinner at the Crystal Ridge Community Centre on Monday evening. Volunteers prepared 18 turkeys for approximately 200 people.

**Mark Lalama Trio**  
with Marc Jordan  
& Whitney Pea

JAN 3

**The Tartan Terrors**

JAN 25

**Alan Doyle**  
& The Beautiful Gypsies

JAN 27

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KEN JONES/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

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## Buffalo man tried to keep Crystal Beach Amusement Park going

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Jan Hall will be remembered for his love for the Crystal Beach Amusement Park, which brought pleasure and joy to everyone who visited it.

His wife, Jan Hall, can recall many occasions where people would stop and share their Crystal Beach stories with the couple.

"No matter where we go, if Crystal Beach is brought up, people say things like 'I remember when' and 'I did this.' It's amazing how many lives were touched (by the amusement park)."

Van died last Monday following a long illness. The Buffalo resident was 89 years old.

Van Hall's family owned and operated the park. He grew up spending much of his time in Crystal Beach "doing odd jobs at the park, making suckers as a young boy and doing all different things. He would ride the Canadiana back and forth (from Buffalo to Crystal Beach)."

The Crystal Beach Amusement park was considered "a small community park, where Hall's grandfather, George Hall, who was a concessionaire, made the famous the Hall suckers" during the early 1900s. The suckers George Hall made

are the very same suckers that are reproduced today by the Crystal Beach Candy Company in Fort Erie.

George Hall eventually bought the park, and later, Van Hall became president in 1973.

When attendance to the park began to decline in the 1970s and 80s, Hall did everything he could to ensure it survived.

"(The park) was really enjoyed by so many people in the region and it was a part of his family. One of the things he did was he took out some very significant loans to enhance the park with new rides. He did quite a few things to perk up the park," Jan Hall said.

Although Hall was not successful in his endeavour and the park was closed in 1989 after 101 years of operation, its legacy will never be forgotten.

"It seems everyone has a story," Jan Hall said. "It brought such great pleasure for the young and old, alike. People loved Crystal Beach Park's Fillmore Vanderveer Hall, or Van as he was known, was born in Buffalo on March 7, 1935.

He graduated from Man-



VAN HALL

lius Military Academy in 1952 and from Colgate University in 1956.

"I must say that his greatest passion in life was being a pilot. His band of brothers were known as the fly boys. He flew air planes for 50 years," Jan Hall said.

Van Hall enlisted in the Air Force where he served for 28 years, including 21 years with the 136th Tactical Fighter Squadron at the National Air Guard in Niagara Falls, NY. He also served in the Vietnam War.

Van retired from the military in 1984 and flew corporate air crafts for the next 22 years.

What Jan Hall says she will miss most about her husband is "his great smile and his passion for life."

"He was a very intelligent, fascinating person. He was fun to be with."

Van Hall leaves behind two sons, Gregory and Douglas; two stepchildren, Robin and David Pfandig, his sister Sandra Doyle, his brother Donald Hall, and seven grandchildren.

Family will receive friends and loved ones during a visitation between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Amigone Funeral Home, 1132 Delaware Ave., on Friday, Jan. 8 in Buffalo, NY.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca







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## In Brief

### Ring in the New Year at legion

The Royal Canadian Legion branch 230 invites the community to ring in the New Year with England.

The party begins at 3 p.m. and includes a potluck meal. The countdown to midnight in the UK will begin at 6 p.m. Those in attendance will watch England celebrate the New Year live on a big screen.

All ages are welcome. For more information call the legion at 905-894-5527.

### Free public skating

Fort Erie Secondary School and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School invite everyone for free family skating.

Free skating will be held at the Crystal Ridge Arena on Dec. 29 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and the Fort Erie Leisureplex on Dec. 30 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Donations to the food bank at Community Outreach Program Erie are appreciated.

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# Opinion

## Happy holidays

Christmas Day is just one more sleep and it's hard not to feel the excitement in the air.

Hopefully, the hustle and bustle, and rushing around is over for readers and all of the presents are wrapped and nestled safely underneath the tree, the holiday meal is warming in the oven and you're settling down to enjoy the festivities.

Now is the time to take a deep breath, relax and reflect on this past year and all of the blessings that have been given to each one of us. In the crazy rush to find the perfect gifts for loved ones, trim the tree, decorate and plan for the arrival of family members,

it's easy to forget what the spirit of Christmas is all about.

Although it doesn't always feel like it, the holidays are a time for taking a breather and enjoying the company of family members, and the people who feel like family to us.

No matter your religion or philosophical beliefs, Dec. 25 can be a day to take a deep breath and relax.

Give yourself a break from all of the mundane tasks in daily life that can sometimes overwhelm, and instead focus on the people and things that really matter; your family, friends and good health.

We should also stop to think about peace and

good will toward mankind, which are the sentiments that are often sung about in Christmas carols, but often forgotten about.

There are so many wonderful people who live and work in our community who are shining examples of what it means to be kind, compassionate and generous. They exemplify all of these meaningful qualities not just at Christmas time, but all year round. We just have to stop and take a moment to notice that goodness is all around us.

From all of us at the Fort Erie Times, we would like to wish you, our readers, a safe and happy holiday.

Merry Christmas.



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## Community Press

Gerry Drage Group Advertising Director  
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### Do you remember?



Last week's photo of the little girl with a white bearded man was identified by an anonymous call from the North Pole, the man is a Mr. S. Claus who visits this region every December. The little girl remains unidentified however. If you recognize her it is never too late to call in. This week's photo shows Boy Scouts welcoming a visit from Santa in 1981. If you recognize anyone in the photo (even yourself), please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us museum@forterie.on.ca



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

This week's photo shows Boy Scouts welcoming a visit from Santa in 1981. If you recognize anyone in the photo (even yourself), please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us museum@forterie.on.ca



# A story about eurypterids, also known as 'sea scorpions'

This article is from my old nature blog. It brings back some good memories.

I have explored Port Colborne quarries over the years. Near Reeb's Bay quarry I found a neat little fossilized turtle.

I found large crinoids (prehistoric plants) there too. On Port's Quarry Road with grandchildren, we found many good Horned coral specimens.

What about Fort Erie quarries?

Giant sea scorpions in Fort Erie?

True!

I saw them some years ago. In Fort Erie?

Yes, I am not kidding. One

time the late Bert Miller did



When Nature Calls

some rare flora. We now have Rob Eberly of the Bert Miller Nature Club. Rob had become an Eurypterid fossil hunter. I was there when he found them. Uncanny.

We were in a private quarry that sunny, late September, afternoon several years ago. The four of us, Rob, Robbie Jr., Ray, and myself stood on the edge of the road leading down into the heart of the working

quarry. There were two figures far down the way.

The reverberations of their tapping reached us. Rob lead the way. One of them stood up to greet us. He was a tall thin man.

His companion, a young woman, also equipped with a stone hammer arose. "I am Robert Sensestein, a paleontologist from Ottawa.

This is my wife. We are on our honeymoon. We heard about the eurypterids and wanted to do some searching."

Rob said that we were doing likewise. We parted our ways and headed some 60-70 feet east. Ray found a spot. I did too. Rob started at his own location. I followed the slabs that were

piled in a trail. I would take one turn it over and on occasion hit it with my rock hammer. It would split. Nothing inside.

Remember, we had protective glasses on. Stone chips can hurt you.

I heard Rob calling to Robbie. "The careful, Robbie!" Robbie was the top of a pile of loose slabs and he disappeared. No problem. Robbie reappeared unscathed. He headed back to where his father was systematically prying back a layer of Berie limestone. Then the gasp.

"What's this?" Ray and I approached. There was Rob and his son looking down at the head of an Eurypterid. Carefully Rob pried back the

third level. There staring at was the positive and negative form of a Sea scorpion.

"Stinger tail, paddles and segmented body a good eight inches in length. We yelled over to Robert and his wife. They exploded with exclamations... what a find! ...This is great!"

The Sensesteins were in ecstasy. I recorded the paleontologist's words and his description.

"There may be more here as they are often found in a nest"

He was right. Rob found another excellent negative and positive form and a third head.

What is an eurypterid? Here is one description, "Eurypterids, also known as "sea scorpions" were

marine arthropods that became extinct.

Related to modern-day scorpions, they could grow to six feet long! Giants? Ours were one tenth the size but still it was an exciting find. I read that eurypterids rarely occur in the fossil record. So uncanny Rob Eberly, amateur paleontologist of Ridgeway, has done it again.

Like Rob and I took photos of the great find. Rob graciously turned his site over to the honeymooners, the Sensesteins of Ottawa. They were grateful.

May you have a joyful and peaceful Christmas!

Earl Plato is a resident of Fort Erie, local historian and nature lover.

## Library staff pick their favourite books and films

What could be better when holiday tasks are done, than to relax with a movie or TV series on Blu-ray or DVD, especially when you can borrow them for free from the Fort Erie Public Library?

Staff members offer several recommendations for films worth watching. Debbie Ashworth and Nancy Hooper both like Jennifer Aniston in *Cake*, and Hooper also was impressed by Reese Witherspoon in *Wild*.

Maria Brigantino enjoyed *Max and found* Still Alice, a story of an early onset Alzheimer's case, very compelling.

Mike Scott enjoyed *Dope*, starring Shameik Moore, ASAP Rocky, Zoe Kravitz and Blake Anderson and *Get Hard* is Nelly Weaver's pick.

If you enjoyed *Pitch*



Fort Erie Library

Perfect, Laura Martino says you should be sure to see the sequel, *Pitch Perfect 2*.

Another film based on the themes of young vocalists and their music is *Boyz n the City*, starring Dustin Hoffman and Garrett Wareing, and that is my recommendation. Dawn Gagarosa points out that *Matelien* is entertaining for all ages.

Sean Fleming and others appreciate non-fiction DVDs; his pick for the year is *Merchandise of Doubt*, in which Robert Kenner (who produced *Food, Inc.*) investigates the shadowy world of

professional skeptics, whose services are paid for by special interests to cast doubt and delay governmental action on climate change.

The easiest, least expensive way to binge watch TV series is by grabbing a season or two of your favourite show from the library.

Scott enjoys all three seasons of *House of Cards* and Martino recommends *American Horror Story*. Hooper cannot choose a favourite between *Downton Abbey* and *Call the Midwife*, and her dilemma is shared by many of our patrons.

My favourite is *Murdoch Mysteries*.

Our fiction choices for this year include in tone from Andrew Pyper's *The Damned*, selected by Fleming, to *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah, recommended by Martino, and Brigantino's suggestion

See Me by Nicholas Sparks. Scott enjoys fantasy author Neil Gaiman, and especially *Keys Neverwhere*.

Historical fiction is a very popular genre, and Weaver's pick *The Kitchen House* is available for individual readers, or as a set for book discussion groups to enjoy.

My favourite? *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry*: a novel by Gabrielle Charbon. When we list fiction choices, know that they may be available as ebook or audio downloads on *Overdrive*, or in traditional format, or even both.

Biographies and autobiographies win over all other non-fiction for all ages this year. Brigantino recommends the searing true story of the three women who lived in Cleveland, Ohio, for years: *Hope* by Amanda Berry and Gina DeJesus. Weaver enjoyed it's a Long

Story: my life by Willie Nelson, while Martino suggests *M Train* by Patti Smith.

Margaret MacMillan's *History's People: personalities and the past* is proof of the saying 'all history is biography', and is my recommendation this year. Franklin's *Lost Ship* by John Geiger and Alanna Mitchell is Fleming's favourite non-fiction, a marvelous account of a Canadian legend come to light.

Music is important to us all, and it is available in Freerag downloads, or on CD. Kacey Musgraves' *Paganet Material* is Weaver's choice, while *Sleeping Operator* by Barr Brothers is Fleming's.

The young people's fiction which attracted our attention is *Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell, available on *Overdrive*, and *The Marvels* by Brian

Selznick. *The Marvels* is in the children's area, but Martino and I insist it is a wonderful read for all ages.

Get tickets as soon as the library reopens for a Pasta Night to help the library! Tickets are available for the Jan. 7 dinner at the Italian Canadian Hall, to benefit library enhancements by the Friends of the Fort Erie Public Library.

All branches of the library are closed Dec. 31, 2015 and January 1, 2016 for holidays, but will reopen Saturday, January 2 for regular hours. The library is always open online at [www.fepi.ca](http://www.fepi.ca) for downloads of books, magazines, music and movies, for research or for placing holds on the items your local library staff has recommended.

Any Roeback is the community services coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

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A look back at the week in Niagara

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# OUR NIAGARA



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## ■ COMMUNITY

### Local Early Learning & Child Care Professionals Honoured

More than 45 registered early childhood educators, volunteers, full day learning programs and students received recognition on Thursday November 19th at a special awards ceremony emceed by 105.7 EZ Rock Morning Show Host Lori Love. The ceremony was part of the 19th Annual Niagara Early Learning & Child Care Awards of Excellence Celebration coordinated by the Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC).

More than 370 guests were in attendance at the medieval masquerade themed gala, sponsored by Louise Kool & Galt, Canada's

leading supplier of classroom resources. Many other businesses supported the event including: The St. Catharines Standard, A Child's World Family Child Care Services of Niagara, Meridian Credit Union, YMCA of Niagara, HiMama Inc., PenFinancial Credit Union, Minuteman Press, University of Guelph-Humber and Future Access Inc. The Honourable Jim Bradley, MPP was present and congratulated each award recipient with Lois Mahon, President of the College of Early Childhood Educator's and Darlene Edgar, Director of Children's Services with Niagara Region.



Staff of the Early Childhood Community Development Centre (far left) and Lois Mahon President of the College of Early Childhood Educator's (far right)



Contributor Award Category for Volunteers and Colleagues



Practitioner Professionalism Award



Staff of the Early Childhood Community Development Centre with Darlene Edgar, MPP



Continuous Professional Learning Award



Full Day Kindergarten Program Award



Full Day Kindergarten Program Award



Full Day Kindergarten Program Award

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# From the gardener's journal

When the days arrive at this time of year that merry Christmas feeling of warmth is everywhere.

And I say great job community and all the folk who have placed decorations and lights—what a pleasure to be around town at dusk and later and be warmed by the lights and recognition

of the season.

Some years ago I was waiting for my nephew to return from his tour with the US Army and well after the Christmas season the community had retained all the decorations to welcome the troops back for the family celebrations which would take place then. Just a little reminder that it is

when we are together that the true celebration begins.

And that is not to be insensitive to folk who are troubled and struggling this time of year especially. It can be difficult to have hope when sadness is overwhelming so I am very grateful particularly to the great work the Salvation Army does in reaching out

to everyone. I hope you can catch some of the commercials they have been using to remind us all to share and give. Support the kettle and the food banks every day if you can—that's my encouragement to all of us.

Keeping the greens fresh this season may not be too hard considering the soft

weather. If you do find extra greens you can always dry them in a clean outdoor spot and use the dried results as very nice compost in the spring. Or if you prefer to take some of the dried needles and place them in a cheesecloth or linen sack you will have some room fresher for the winter. The darker evenings and

shorter days can be lightened and brightened by this cheery beverage (See box).

From our home to yours, have a very safe and healthy Christmas and a peaceful and pleasant new year.

Keep growing.

Ruth Vold Markle is the vice president of the Fort Erie Horticultural Society.

## Red Raspberry Mulled Cider: from the "Treasury of Christmas Recipes"

- 1 quart apple cider or apple juice
  - 1/2 cup seedless red raspberry jam
  - 2 lemons (optional)
  - Cinnamon stick (optional)
- Combine cider (or juice) and seedless jam in non-al-

uminum saucepan. Wish to dissolve jam, simmer on medium heat until cider is warm (about eight minutes or less). Add lemon juice. Pour into warm mugs. To serve stir in cinnamon stick. This recipe makes about six

servings. Just one more family favorite to pass along. This one is my husband's favorite and is so rich... It was his mom's recipe and she would make it and hide it away until every one could have some.

## Chocolate Art by Barbara Markle

- 2 eggs beaten
  - 1/4 cup butter
  - 1/2 cup white sugar
  - 1/4 cup cocoa
  - Salt and vanilla to taste
- Cook all ingredients on top of stove (1 use medium heat) until there is a pudding consistency.

Cool slightly. Meanwhile: break 24 arrowroot biscuits in a bowl and pour chocolate mixture over them, mixing well. Press mixture into an 8 X 8 pan. Melt on stove or in microwave 1 and 1/2

squares of unsweetened chocolate and spread over top of mixture in pan. Ice with butter frosting and store in refrigerator until needed. I usually make two batches as one seems to go very quickly.

## STAY INFORMED with your Community newspaper!

## Health Corner

### Protect your child's teeth with Sealants

Here are the most frequently asked questions regarding Sealants

What are dental sealants?

- Dental Sealants are thin plastic coatings that are put onto the chewing surfaces of the back teeth.

- Sealants are painted on the top of the back teeth and harden to form a shield over the tooth

Why should my child get sealants?

- As the back teeth grow, pits and grooves form on the top of the teeth. Food and germs get caught in the grooves and cause the teeth to get cavities

- Brushing teeth does not remove all the food and germs stuck in the grooves

- Dental sealants fill in the grooves and help the teeth stay clean

When should my child get sealants?

- When your child starts to get



Dr. John Inigo

their first molars (back teeth) at about the age of 6 or 7. Apply them again around the age of 11 to the second molars when they come in

Does it hurt to have sealants put on teeth?

- No. Getting sealants is painless. No drilling or shots are used. Sealants take about five minutes per tooth. As soon as they dry, normal activities are fine.

How long will sealants last?

- Sealants can last up to 5-10 years or longer if teeth are properly cared for.

How do dental sealants prevent cavities?

- Dental sealants fill the pits and grooves on the teeth.

Teeth are easier to keep clean because food is brushed away easier with a toothbrush.

How much do sealants cost?

- Usually a sealant costs less than filling a tooth that has a cavity. Most insurance companies cover sealants

Is brushing still important when teeth have sealants on them?

- Yes. Brush and floss every day! You still have to work on keeping your teeth and gums clean and healthy.

So there you go. Ask your dentist for sealants to prevent your child's teeth.

Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway, Ontario. He can be reached at Inigo Bertie Dentistry, 905.871.2903 or Inigo Ridgeway Dentistry, 905.894.5555. For further information and discussion, please visit his office at [www.inigodentistry.com](http://www.inigodentistry.com).

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Christmas Day & Boxing Day - CLOSED

Sale prices in effect Sunday Dec. 27 through Thursday Dec. 31, 2015

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# Santas brings joy to Meals on Wheels clients

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Santa Claus came early this year to deliver hot meals.

Meals on Wheels volunteers dressed up as jolly old Saint Nick to spread Christmas cheer as they hand-delivered beef stew to more than 100 clients in Fort Erie last Wednesday morning.

Meals on Wheels executive director Nancy Ryan said the holidays are a special time of the year and it's 'always fun' for her to hear clients' reactions when Santa personally delivers a meal to them.

"I get phone calls from clients saying, 'Did you know Santa delivered my meal today?' It really makes a difference."

Last year, the organization delivered 18,047 meals to individuals.

According to Ryan, Meals on Wheels is an important program for seniors because it provides fellowship and a warm or cold meal to people who need it the most.

The program also provides peace of mind for children who are caring for their elderly parents, or for family members who live far away from their loved ones.

"Many clients have family who live out of town, and so for them, we become their eyes and the ears, and if we notice something we'll notify the family."

The program serves a

wide variety of clients, some are long term, and others may only utilize the service for a short time. Some seniors who break a hip or require serious medical care may take advantage of the program until they recover and are able to care for their own needs again.

Ryan said funding for Fort Erie Meals on Wheels "is always an issue." The program costs more than \$30,000 to run each year and it relies on funding through the Ministry of Health and donations to continue to operate.

"We just couldn't do what we do without support from the community," she said.

Meals on Wheels Fort Erie is a non-profit organization that started in 1971 with six churches that partnered together to serve seven meals. Since then, the program has expanded and currently has 135 active volunteers. It operates at St. Paul's Parish Centre and serves Fort Erie, Crystal Beach, Black Creek, Ridgeway and Stevensville.

Ryan's mother, Suzanne Paliska, was one of the volunteers who founded the program, which is one of the reasons why Ryan wanted to be part of it.

"Because my mom was one of the first members, I saw how much she got out of the program. She didn't share anything personal about the clients but she did talk about the pro-



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Meals on Wheels volunteers Barb Loney, dressed as an elf, Sandra La Belle, Bryan Craig, Jim Randall, and John Maurice, dressed as Santa Claus, delivered meals last Wednesday to seniors participating in the program.

gram," Ryan explained. "It's very rewarding."

Volunteers are always

needed for the Meals on Wheels program. For more information about

accessing the service or how to become a volunteer call Nancy Ryan at

905-871-9366.

Sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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Friday (Jan. 1)

#### Changed to:

Saturday (Dec. 26)  
Saturday (Jan. 2)

### HOLIDAY GARBAGE EXEMPTIONS

In the week following Christmas (Dec. 26, 28, 29, 30, 31), residents may place double their regular weekly garbage limit to the curb on their collection day.

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Niagara  Region

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## Girl guide promise



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The Fort Erie chapter of the Girl Guides held an enrolment night last Wednesday. The newest members of the Girl Guides of Canada said their promise and became official members during a ceremony held at All Saints Anglican Church. From left, (front row) are Bailey, Taylor, Madison, Celia, Aria, (back row) Kayleigh, Faith, Allie, Hannah, Emily, leader Amy McConachie, Carly, Alana, Tessa and leader Jennifer Learn.



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# Holiday lights contest winners chosen

**SARAH FERGUSON**  
Fort Erie Times

Homeowners have strung their lights, set up their displays and a committee has chosen this year's Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright Holiday

Lights Contest winners.

This year's overall Spirit Award winner is 3966 Wellington Ave. In Crystal Beach.

In the residential category, 467 Gorham Rd. won first place; 146 Henrietta took second place; 162 Pleasant

Ave. North, third place.

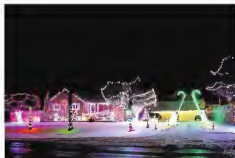
Secret judging took place on Dec. 11.

Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright Holiday Lights Contest

sarah.ferguson@sumedia.ca



The 2015 residential first-place winner of the Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright Holiday Lights Contest is 467 Gorham Rd.



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The 2015 residential second-place winner of the Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright Holiday Lights Contest is 146 Henrietta St.



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The 2015 residential third-place winner of the Greater Fort Erie Making Spirits Bright Holiday Lights Contest is 162 Pleasant Ave. North.

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## Christmas in Stevensville



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Students at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School entertained family and friends during the school's annual Christmas concert which was held last Wednesday.

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# Fort Erie community makes a plan to help refugees

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie community has come together to assist in the arrival of Syrian refugees.

A number of organizations and church groups including representatives from Casa El Norte and the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre met at Town Hall last Wednesday to discuss a strategy to better assist refugees who are expected to settle in the community in the coming months.

"This has been an issue that's been on top of many minds in Fort Erie since it became so publicized earlier this year," said Mayor Wayne Redekop.

In October, Niagara Region's councilors committed \$25,000 to aid the cause "but there didn't seem to be a lot going on in Fort Erie."

Redekop wanted to organize the meeting to discuss the "global crisis" to see which groups were already raising funds and give other organizations that want to help a chance to learn more about the crisis and to connect with other groups.

"I had made some inquiries of some of the organizations in town to see if they were doing something. It seemed to be rather disjointed," he said.

"The meeting was well attended. We defined what some of the real needs were and basic information on

private sponsorship and government sponsorship. We will have a follow up meeting in January which hasn't been set yet."

That second meeting will focus on organizing volunteer committees to assist newcomers with integrating into the community.

Redekop said he holds "high regard for those newcomers who can bring to Fort Erie in terms of enriching the community."

"Newcomers bring different cultures, different faiths and different backgrounds. Historically, Fort Erie has always welcomed those seeking new homes," he said.

Martha Mason, executive director of the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre, is "amazed at the level of interest" Niagara has shown.

A group representing local faith agencies and non-profit groups from across Niagara have joined together to form the Niagara Refugee Assistance Committee. The group, which is led by Jeff Burch, executive director of the Niagara Folks Arts Multicultural Centre, is assessing Niagara's capacity to house, feed and clothe incoming refugees.

"We have every sector imaginable at the table. It's quite empowering to have all these very talented people coming together."

She said the multicultural centre is "putting together a Q and A session" for people

who are interested in private sponsorship to aid Syrian refugees, which will be held sometime in the New Year.

"We will be working with these families through their journey when they arrive," she added.

Lynn Hannigan, the director at Casa El Norte, said, "It was really gratifying" to see so many agencies and members of the community gather together during last Wednesday's meeting.

"I think the enthusiasm was really good with everybody in the room. They all were really anxious and wanting to help."

When the refugees arrive, some of them will temporarily stay at Casa El Norte.

The refugees will need assistance in getting established with their new communities.

"We will be utilizing the services of the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre, which offers help, teaching new comers things about the country, the government and how to get them established," Hannigan explained.

"They need help with things like how to get a health card, a social insurance card, grocery shopping, and down the road, a driver's licence. After they learn English, we can help them into getting careers."

She said 13 churches in the Diocese of St. Catharines have already



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The parish of St. Michael Roman Catholic Church is hoping to sponsor at least two Syrian families within the next few months. From left is parish member Ann Kingston, Father Patrick Gilmurray and Pat Sparling.

committed to sponsoring families and bringing them to Niagara.

"A church in Falls Falls has committed to sponsoring a family that will reside in Fort Erie and St. John's United Church in Steveston will sponsor an extended family on 10."

Father Patrick Gilmurray, of St. Michael's Church, said the St. Michael's Parish has been challenged to donate funds to sponsor at least two Syrian families.

Over the course of the last two weeks, the parish has already raised \$10,000 toward its \$60,000 goal.

Gilmurray isn't surprised that a large amount of money has already been raised.

"Fort Erie has always been

very giving," he said.

If an individual wishes to make a donation, he or she is not required to be a member of the church.

"This is the kind of thing where good comes out of a terrible tragedy. People of all faiths and all backgrounds get together to do something good. It's not just about giving money," Gilmurray said.

He encourages anyone who wishes to donate money or his or her time to assist families when they arrive to contact him at St. Michael's Church at 905-871-0692.

"Everyone has something to give. The gift of time itself is very precious."

Hannigan said the refugees would require new and

gently used clothing, furniture and other items.

"The issue right now is storage space. We're looking for a space to store things. You don't get a lot of warning or time before somebody arrives," she said.

When the families do arrive in Fort Erie, Hannigan said it's important to have "sensitivity for their plight and what they have gone through. They need time to settle into the new culture."

For more information about how to get involved in the relief efforts for Syrian refugees call Casa El Norte at 905-871-4483 or the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre at 905-871-3641.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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# In Briefs

## Robbery suspects identified

Niagara Regional Police say they have identified two men they believe were responsible for the robbery of a Lucky 7 convenience store on Phipps Street that occurred Nov. 17 at 10:43 a.m. in Fort Erie.

Kenneth Houghton, 50,

was arrested on Dec. 10 and charged with robbery. He was transported to Central Cells and later released from custody and given a future court date.

Andrew Greville, 27, of Crystal Beach, has been identified by police as the second male wanted for robbery.

Anyone with information related to the robbery is asked to call Detective Allender at

905-871-2300, extension 2326.

## Ice boom installed

The placement of the 22 spans of the Lake Erie-Niagara River ice boom began last Wednesday.

The ice boom is installed when Lake Erie's water temperature reaches 4°C, or on Dec. 16—which ever comes first.

The ice boom has been installed near the outlet of Lake Erie each winter since 1964 to reduce the amount of ice entering the Niagara River. The reduction of ice entering the river reduces the potential for ice jams, which can result in damage to shoreline property and significantly reduce water flow for hydro electric power productions.

Ownership and the

cost of operating and maintaining the boom is shared by the New York Power Authority and the Ontario Power Generation.

Installation, operation and removal of the boom is done by the New York Power Authority. The use of the boom is authorized by the International Joint Commission with its International Niagara Board of Control overseeing its installation, operation and removal.



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## The colours of Christmas



MARYANNE FIRTH/POSTMEDIA  
NETWORK

Niagara College horticulture student Jordan Schreuder reads poinsettias for delivery from the school's greenhouse. The college donated close to 100 of the popular holiday plants to the YWCA and Queenchester Terrace, an independent supportive living facility, on Monday.



MARYANNE FIRTH/POSTMEDIA  
NETWORK

Niagara College students Jordan Schreuder, Denise Hostawser and Alison Schertzing ready poinsettias for delivery from the school's greenhouse.

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## Joyful chorus



SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Members of the Niagara Men's Chorus, under the direction of their new leader Brett Ransom and accompanist Fran Spoor, entertained a full house at the Stevensville Hall in a concert of Christmas music and poetry sponsored by the Fort Erie Public Library on Dec. 8.

## You're Invited To Our

### Christmas Eve Celebration

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### Bouquet for a husband

A bouquet for my husband for cleaning the house to get ready for our Christmas company.

### Bouquet for volunteers

A bouquet for all of the service organizations and the volunteers who work so hard to make sure everyone in the community has the Christmas they deserve.

### Bouquet for lighting displays

A big bouquet for Christmas light displays! By the time I reach my home in Ridgeway each night, it seems as though I have driven through a beautiful Festival of Lights! I always encourage my family in Niagara Falls to drive out here during the holidays to enjoy the displays. Thanks to all those who put out so much thought and work putting up the lights! There should be a 'Griswald's Christmas Spirit' award presented to all of you!

### Bouquet for volunteer drivers

A bouquet for the Cancer Society's volunteer drivers. These dedicated individuals drive cancer patients to and from their treatments at the St. Catharines Hospital and in Hamilton. They drive endless miles, sometimes even going back and forth to Hamilton twice in one day. The world needs more selfless people like you. Thank you so much for your help.

**Brick for people  
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A brick for people who are critical of people with special needs. Everyone, no matter what challenges they face, are important members of the community. Who are you to be so rude if they're not perfect. Look in the mirror and see your own faults.

### Brick for a driver

A huge brick for the person who owns a big black vehicle that parked so close to me in the No Frills parking lot Saturday morning. I had to climb into my car from the passenger side, as I could not get in my driver side door. Did you not learn how to drive properly? Do you know how to park? Apparently not because you did not see that you parked over the line, and only left two inches between us.

### Brick for a thief

A brick for the low-life that stole the statue out of my front garden. Whoever it was must have been strong as it was very heavy, if they wanted a statue they should have gone to the garden centre and purchased one legally.

### Bouquet for a mom

A bouquet for my mom who works so hard before the holidays to make sure we all have a very Merry Christmas. You run around, do all the shopping and make the Christmas meal. Thank you for everything that you do. I hope you know that all of your efforts do not go unappreciated. Without you, the holidays would not seem as bright. I cannot thank you enough for everything that you do. We love you, mom. Merry Christmas!

Send your bricks & bouquets to:  
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them to Fort Erie Times,  
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ANNIE PASQUARIELLO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Stacie Reade, Kit Coppolino, of Scratch Bakery, Juliana Bellante of JBell Promotions and Media, Chef Cameron MacDonald and Chef Collin Goodine attended the first Chef's Table Star Christmas Dinner at the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts last Wednesday.

# Chefs serve up a holiday feast

ANNIE PASQUARIELLO  
Special to The Times

A local charity event has helped make the season a little brighter for some families in the Niagara Region.

The Chef's Table Star Christmas Dinner was held last Wednesday night at the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts in Ridgeway.

Chef Cameron MacDonald and his team partner, public relations manager Juliana Bellante came up with the idea to provide a night out for Niagara's Project Share families for an unforgettable experience. The evening was a special night for these families starting with a limo ride to the venue, a gourmet meal and live entertainment provided by Rita Carrey.

Bellante says her and MacDonald wanted to give back to the community and came up with the idea for the Chef's Table dinner as

it is something many of these families would not be able to do, due to finances.

"Chef Cameron and I had lost our jobs at the time and wanted to do something to feel better. Giving back to the community is the way to do that," she says. "It's important to give back, not only at Christmas, but all year-round."

MacDonald, one of Niagara's fastest growing and recognized chefs, paired up with his mentor Chef Collin Goodine to make the gourmet meal. He says him and Goodine enjoying giving back to the community and one of the ways they can do so is through food.

"We are just trying to provide people in need a little sunshine during the holidays," he says.

A chef's table dinner at a restaurant is a unique and special experience which Bellante and MacDonald

wanted these families to experience.

Katie Cuvellio, special events coordinator Project Share, says the event is a great initiative for their clients.

"It is really difficult for our clients to have a professionally prepared meal. This is something really special for them as they could not normally afford something like this," she says.

Local businesses also contributed to the night with desserts from Scratch Bakery, floral arrangements from Weddings Tied with Lace and limo service from Entourage Limco. Bellante says she hopes they can do this again in 2016 on a larger scale and help more families and individuals.

For more information on Niagara's Project Share e-mail Katie Cuvellio at [events@projectshare.ca](mailto:events@projectshare.ca) or by phone at 905-357-5121.



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Limited time lease offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. Limited supply available. As of December 1, 2015, there are 37 units available on 2015 RAV4 FWD LE (Model ZPEV7Y). Numbers by dealership as units are sold. <sup>1</sup>All in price of a new 2016 Corolla CE Manual (Model BURB5M) 2016 Camry XSE (Model BAKPMT) 2015 RAV4 AWD Limited (Model ZPEV7Y) is \$21,429/\$23,349/\$26,575. All in price includes freight and fees (PDE, DEF, GMAC) tax and condition tax, where applicable. HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. <sup>2</sup>2016 Camry LE 2015 RAV4 AWD Limited (Model ZPEV7Y) with an all-in price of \$17,354/\$21,304/\$25,234 equals a semi-monthly payment of \$61/\$134/\$117 for 50/50/50 payments with a \$0/\$2,400/\$2,250 down payment or trade equivalent, when you apply the \$800/900/750 Lease Assist or the \$600/750 Customer Incentive. First semi-monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$6,108/\$6,203/\$6,145. All in lease includes freight and fees (PDE, DEF, GMAC) tax and condition tax, where applicable. HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may lease for less. Based on a maximum of \$6,000/MAXIMUM \$6,000/M. Additional RM charge of \$6,071/\$6,103 to for excess kilometers, if applicable. <sup>3</sup>\$750 Lease Assist on a new 2015 Corolla CE is valid on Toyota retail delivery (including fleet sales) when leased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Lease Assist will be applied after taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Vehicles receiving Lease Assist must be leased, registered and delivered between December 1, 2015 and January 3, 2016. <sup>4</sup>\$750 Customer Incentive available on a 2015 RAV4 FWD LE (Model ZPEV7Y) is valid to retail customers (including fleet sales) when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Customer Incentive will take place at time of delivery, include tax and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Vehicles receiving Customer Incentive must be leased, registered and delivered between December 1, 2015 and January 4, 2016. Dealer Fees may be added and may be computed of administration/documentation fees, VIN etching, anti-theft products, cold weather packages or other fees. Fees may vary by Dealer. Offers are valid between December 1, 2015 and January 4, 2016, and are subject to change without notice. All rights are reserved. Dealer may lease for less. Please see your participating Ontario Toyota Dealer for full details.



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# International power line project was completed last weekend

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

The replacement of the International Power Line that runs between Fort Erie and Buffalo was completed last weekend.

Kristine Carmichael, Canadian Niagara Power's manager of human resources and customer service, said the work was originally scheduled for Saturday morning but was delayed due to an expected snowfall in Buffalo.

CNP announced its plans late last year to replace the power line and two aging lattice steel towers—one on both sides of the border—that were over 100 years old. CNP selected O'Connell Electric as the contractor for the duration of the project.

The international power line connects CNP and National Grid's transmission systems. Rebuilding

the international power line was necessary to restore electrical reliability to the CNP transmission system in Fort Erie.

The first two stages which involved the removal of the cables from the two steel towers and the towers themselves—one at the foot of Queen Street in Fort Erie, and the second tower at the Buffalo High Tower in Buffalo—were completed in 2014.

The final stage, which involves the placement of new poles, stringing of cables, and re-energizing the line between the two transmission systems, began in October.

Between 6 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday, a helicopter was used to string new electrical lines between the two towers on both sides of the Niagara River, with the ropes than being used to pull the wire from tower to tower.



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Canadian Niagara Power's International Power Line replacement project was completed last Sunday.

The re-energizing of the wires between the two transmission systems followed.

As a safety precaution, traffic on Interstate 190 near the Peace Bridge in the U.S. was interrupted. On the

Canadian side, traffic was interrupted intermittently on the Niagara Parkway.

For more information about the project visit [www.cnpower.com](http://www.cnpower.com)

[sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca](mailto:sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca)



HARRY ROSE/TAN/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

A helicopter was used to string the new power line.

— January 8-15, 2016 —

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## WISHES MERRY & BRIGHT

<p><b>2010 Honda Civic LX</b> 132,139 kms, Stock#3371 Features Include: Sunroof, Power Windows, Air Conditioning</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$10,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>	<p><b>2010 Honda Accord EX-L</b> 15,547 kms, Stock#3303 Features Include: Air Conditioning, Power Windows, Sunroof, Keyless Entry, Alloys</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$16,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>
<p><b>2010 Honda Civic LX</b> 128,139 kms, Stock#3371 Features Include: Sunroof, Power Windows, Air Conditioning</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$10,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>	<p><b>2010 Honda Accord EX-L</b> 15,547 kms, Stock#3303 Features Include: Air Conditioning, Power Windows, Sunroof, Keyless Entry, Alloys</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$16,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>
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<p><b>2010 Honda Civic LX</b> 132,139 kms, Stock#3371 Features Include: Sunroof, Power Windows, Air Conditioning</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$10,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>	<p><b>2010 Honda Accord EX-L</b> 15,547 kms, Stock#3303 Features Include: Air Conditioning, Power Windows, Sunroof, Keyless Entry, Alloys</p> <p><b>OUR PRICE NOW ONLY \$16,488</b> *TAX &amp; L.C.</p>
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Thank you to all our returning customers for your loyalty.

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## Helping those in need



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The Grade 5/6 class at St. George Catholic Elementary School held a fundraiser to collect donations for the St. Vincent de Paul food bank. The students began their week-long collection on Dec. 4 and collected 30 boxes of food.

## FIRE

### FIRE PREVENTION SMARTS

At least 80 percent of all fire deaths occur in home fires. Here are some smart Fire Prevention tips for protecting yourself and your family:

- ✓ Never leave candles burning unattended, and keep matches out of reach from children.
- ✓ Keep space heaters away from curtains and other flammable materials.
- ✓ Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home and outside each bedroom, and test batteries monthly.



## BABIES OF 2015 BLESSED EVENTS

Joshua David  
Huzarski  
January 6, 2015

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Blessed Events, Babies in Review  
Being Published Jan. 14, 2016

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# Community Listings

FORTERIETIMES.CA

## THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

(905) 871-1800 • Fax (905) 871-4022 • [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca)

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE INFORMATION 905-871-1800

RADIO EMERGENCY INFORMATION 91.7 FM - 106.7 FM - 610 AM



### Summer Student Employment – 2016

Competition No. 52-2015 The Corporation is now accepting applications for student employment opportunities in the **summer of 2016**. You must be attending a post-secondary institution. **Returning students MUST apply.** For more information and to apply, visit <http://www.town.forterie.ca/>, go to Government, then Employment, click on Summer Student and complete the on-line application. The deadline for receiving applications is **5:00 p.m. Friday, January 22, 2016**. We will conduct interviews in February 2016.

## THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

(905) 871-1800 • Fax (905) 871-4022 • [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca)

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE INFORMATION 905-871-1800

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### 2015 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PUBLIC SKATING

#### LEISUREPLEX:

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE – MONDAY – DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> – 2:00 – 3:30 PM

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE – WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2:00 – 3:30 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 – 3:30 PM \$1.50/PERSON

#### CRYSTAL RIDGE ARENA:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 10:00 PM \$2.50/PERSON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 2:30 PM \$1.50/PERSON

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE – TUESDAY – DECEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2:00 – 3:30 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00 – 2:30 PM \$1.50/PERSON

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE – MONDAY – DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 – 3:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 – 2:30 PM \$1.50/PERSON



### WANT YOUR EVENT INCLUDED? SEND US YOUR INFO

Non-profit organizations are invited to submit events for inclusion in Community Listings. Items are run at no charge based on available space. Deadline for submissions is the previous Friday at 12 noon. To submit items, email [sarah.ferguson@summedia.ca](mailto:sarah.ferguson@summedia.ca) or call 905-871-3100 ext. 524207. Make sure to include contact information, and please put "community digest – your event name" in the subject line of your e-mail.

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BRANCH 71, FORT ERIE

### JANUARY 2016 CALENDAR

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Ring of the Peace Bell 4:00 pm

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

Ring in the New Year  
with Randy Thomas

8:30 pm - 12:30 am • Free Admission

Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

Presidents Levee  
Noon - 2:00 pm

*from the Branch 71 Executive:*  
**A very Merry Christmas  
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**Starts again January 6th, 2016**

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Phone: 905-871-9566 for more information.

### DECEMBER 29

#### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

##### LIBRARY

**WHAT EVERY BABYSITTER SHOULD KNOW:** A Course created for the 11-14 year old age group and presented by St. John Ambulance, designed to teach babysitting, leadership and first aid skills. Participants learn to care for infants, toddlers, school-aged children and themselves. \$40 course fee, pre-registration required, call 905-356-7340. Space limited to 18 participants. Centennial branch, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

### DECEMBER 30

#### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

##### LIBRARY

**HOME ALONE FOR KIDS:** Safety, first aid and comfort skills are covered in this course through interactive games and role playing. Pre-registration is required, and may be made by calling 905-356-7340. Course fee of \$30 to be arranged with SJA at time of registration. Space is limited to 18 participants. For youth ages eight and up. Crystal Ridge branch, 1 pm to 4 pm.

### JANUARY 7

#### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

##### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY PASTA NIGHT:

Pasta Night at Italo Canadian Hall. Members of Friends will sell tickets in advance, until Dec. 31. Dishes made by Maria's Catering, and a big fundraiser for the Friends. 4 pm to 7 pm.

### ONGOING

#### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**ALL BRANCHES CLOSED:** All branches of the library will be closed on Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Dec. 26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

##### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HOMEWORK HELP:** The Fort Erie Public Library offers an afterschool homework help program for students in Grades 1 to 8. Volunteer tutors will be available to assist students with homework assignments, and students may also use the time and space for reading or reviewing work. A healthy snack and drink will be provided for those students attending. No registration is required for this program, and students from all schools are welcome. The program is available from 3:30 to 5:30 at the Crystal Ridge and Centennial branches of the library Monday through Friday. For more information call Justine Burns at 905-871-2546, ext. 301.

##### FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**KNITTING:** Ladies of the Bower Road Women's Institute share their expertise and heritage in this free public program. They encourage all adults who would like to learn knitting to visit the Centennial branch of the library on the first, second and third Tuesday evenings, and the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. If you have needles or yarn, bring them along, but they will provide all that is needed – you bring your desire to learn!





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# 'I have earned their respect'

RAY SPITERI  
Postmedia Network

He may be an MPP for a third-place party, but Wayne Gates is pleased with his first two years as the Niagara Falls riding's representative at Queen's Park.

"The toughest (part) is the time away from your family. But I am absolutely thrilled and honoured to be the MPP for Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"I look forward to getting up in the morning, going to work and making a difference for my riding."

Gates was elected MPP during the February 2014 byelection to replace Liberal MPP Kim Craitor, who resigned in September 2013 citing mental exhaustion.

For the first time in 19 years, the Niagara Falls riding went orange. It remained that colour following the general provincial election in June 2014, as Gates, who was previously a Niagara Falls city councillor, held on to his seat.

Since then, the past president of Unifor Local 199 union has been a backbencher for the NDP, which has the third-most seats in the Ontario legislature, behind

the governing Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives, who are the official opposition.

Gates doesn't see the Niagara Falls riding's current situation as a hindrance.

"I don't believe it's hurting my riding at all that I'm an NDPer. I have earned their respect."

Gates says he often talks to Liberal Premier Kathleen Wynne and several other key ministers. "They see me coming and they don't run away."

He says as an opposition MPP, it's important to go before government members with "fact-based" information, backed by local support.

"You have to raise legitimate issues, earn their respect and trust, and show them that what you're fighting for is in the best interest of your riding, not because of some self-serving political reason. They see through that."

Gates says for Niagara, and Ontario, to prosper, government leaders of all political stripes have to work together.

He says proof of co-operation can be seen with the ongoing GO train line for Niagara, where local politicians, who may have different political leanings,

are unified in their push to see daily, year-round commuter train service in the region.

"I talk to (St. Catharines Liberal MPP) Jim Bradley all the time, especially about GO. We want to find a way, together, to make this a reality."

Gates says he was an early supporter of, and fought for, bringing year-round GO train service to Niagara during the 2014 byelection.

It's now the No. 1 issue for politicians in Niagara and a business case has been presented to the provincial government.

Gates says he's glad to see Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp. take another step toward a new 5,000-7,000-seat entertainment centre in Niagara Falls by announcing a request for pre-qualification.

Gates says he keeps in touch with the minister of health and the Niagara Health System regarding the ongoing planning process for a new south Niagara hospital proposed on the outskirts of Niagara Falls.

Gates says he has been a long-time supporter of the Fort Erie Race Track, which after years of uncertainty is seeing growth.

"We still need more (race)

dates and we need to bring back the slots, and that's something I have been working on, and will continue to work on. We need to secure those 700 jobs and that's why the slots are so important."

Gates says he has worked with town, regional and provincial officials on the proposed \$400-million Canadian Motor Speedway development in Fort Erie.

After a lengthy study by the Ministry of Transportation, speedway officials were told in October it will not have to upgrade to a four-lane structure at the Queen Elizabeth Way, and that a two-lane Bowen Road/QEW interchange will be sufficient as long as certain conditions are met.

"That's more jobs for Niagara and hundreds of millions of dollars in direct and indirect investment."

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, Gates says he has talked a lot about supporting local farmers, wineries and craft brewers.

"They had a really good year last year, and there's a heightened awareness of the craft-beer industry. It's great to see the growth with Niagara College's teaching brewery. Stu-



MIKE DUBATISTA/NIAGARA FALLS REVIEW/POSTMEDIA NETWORK FILE PHOTO

Niagara Falls NDP MPP Wayne Gates says he is pleased with his first two years as the riding's representative at Queen's Park.

denis are getting that education right here in Niagara.

"A lot of good things are happening, and have the potential to happen, in the Niagara Falls riding."

Gates introduced two private member's bills in 2015, both of which passed second reading.

One would create a right of passage along the shoreline of the Great Lakes. The second would introduce a new section to the Highway Traffic Act that would strengthen penalties for drivers who cause, or contribute to causing, death or serious injury while violating the act.

Gates says his one disappointment as an MPP so far is not being able to convince the

government to keep Parliament Oak Public School open in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The District School Board of Niagara decided to consolidate the school with Crossroads Public School.

"That was the first issue the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake put their trust in me and I put every ounce of energy into it. I was really disappointed, and I felt for all those families that did such an incredible job making their case so professionally. That was tough."

ray.spiteri@postmedia.ca

Twitter: @RaySpiteri

December 26 - 30 2015

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# HOLIDAY GREETINGS 2015



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# TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
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and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

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to All and a  
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**Happy  
Holidays**

It's a time for reflection and memories, and a time  
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Thanks for helping make this year a  
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# TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## Gingerbread Wreaths



**Prep Time**  
20 min.

**Total Time**  
47 min.

**Servings**  
28 servings,  
1 cookie (46 g) each

Recipe By Kraft

### What You Need

- 3/4 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 pkg. (4-serving size) *Jell-O* Butterscotch Instant Pudding
- 2 eggs • 2-1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda • 4 tsp. ground ginger
- 1-1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. ground cloves
- 2/3 cup green decorating icing
- 2 tsp. red decorating gel
- 2 pkg. (64 g each) *Maynards* Mini Fruit Gums

### Make It

- Beat butter, sugar and dry pudding mix in large bowl with mixer until light and fluffy. Blend in eggs. Mix next 5 ingredients. Gradually add to pudding mixture, beating well after each addition. Refrigerate 15 min.
- Heat oven to 350°F. Place dough between 2 sheets of parchment or waxed paper; roll to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into circles with 3-inch cookie cutter, rolling dough scraps as necessary. Place, 2 inches apart, on baking sheets sprayed with cooking spray.
- Bake 10 to 12 min. or until edges are lightly browned. Let stand on baking sheets 3 min.; remove to wire racks. Cool completely. Decorate with remaining ingredients.

## Caramel-Filled Maple-Pecan Cookies



**Prep Time**  
30 min.

**Total Time**  
44 min.

**Servings**  
24 servings,  
2 cookie (36 g) each

Recipe By Kraft

### What You Need

- 1 pkg. (250 g) *Philadelphia* Brick Cream Cheese, softened
- 1 cup butter, softened • 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. maple extract • 2-1/2 cups flour
- 24 *Kraft* Caramels
- 4 tsp. half-and-half
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans

### Make It

- Heat oven to 350°F.
- Beat cream cheese and butter in large bowl with mixer until blended. Add sugar and extract; mix well. Gradually add flour, mixing well after each addition.
- Microwave caramels and half-and-half in small microwaveable bowl on HIGH 1-1/2 min. or until caramels are completely melted and mixture is well blended, stirring after 1 min. Cool 5 min. Meanwhile, shape dough into 48 (1-inch) balls. Roll in nuts until evenly coated. Place, 2 inches apart, on parchment-covered baking sheets. Indent centers.
- Pour caramel sauce into resealable plastic bag. Cut small piece off one bottom corner of bag; use to squeeze caramel sauce into indentations in dough.
- Bake 12 to 14 min. or until edges are lightly browned. Cool on baking sheets 5 min. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

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## Holiday Greetings

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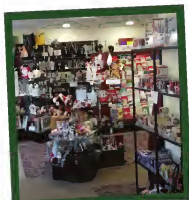
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TO OUR  
FRIENDS  
AT THE  
HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!



We wish you a **Merry Christmas** and  
Thank You for your patronage  
throughout the last year. Looking forward to  
serving you in 2016.

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## TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## GRINCH POPCORN



*Grinch Popcorn*

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 cup popcorn kernels
- 2 Tbsp canola oil
- Salt
- 1/4 cup butter (they suggest sweet cream salted)
- 3 1/2 cups mini marshmallows (divided)
- Blue food coloring
- Yellow food coloring
- Red M&M's

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Make the popcorn. (They suggest making it the old fashioned way for a better taste, but you can also make it in the microwave.)
2. Salt the popcorn liberally, and make sure you remove all of the unpopped kernels.
3. Melt the butter in a medium sauce pan. Once it is melted, add 3 cups of the mini marshmallows and stir until they are melted.
4. Turn off the heat and add a couple drops of yellow food coloring. Mix until the mixture is bright yellow, then add in one very small drop of blue food coloring and stir. This combination of food coloring should give you the perfect "Grinch Green" color. (If you are making this for a holiday party, you can add a little bit more blue for a more "Christmas-y Green.")
5. Slowly pour the marshmallow mixture over the popcorn. Using a spoon, gently fold it in until the popcorn is mostly covered. The amount of marshmallow mixture you add to the popcorn is up to your own taste. Add it in a little bit at a time until you get the amount of coating you desire.
6. Pour the popcorn onto a cookie sheet covered with foil or a Silpat liner. Drizzle a little bit of the remaining marshmallow mixture over the popcorn, but do not mix it in – you will need the mixture on the top so the candy will have something to stick to.
7. Sprinkle the remaining marshmallows and the red M&M's (they represent the Grinch's tiny heart that grew three sizes!) onto the popcorn while it is still warm and sticky, concentrating on the areas where you drizzled the marshmallow mixture.
8. Allow the popcorn to cool, then break apart into pieces and serve! (You can store the popcorn for a few days in a Ziplock bag or an airtight container, but it will get a little chewy as the popcorn absorbs the marshmallow mixture. If you are making this for a party, we suggest making it as close to the time you will serve it as possible, but it will still taste good if you need to make it early!)

*Merry Christmas!*

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beauty of the Holiday  
Season be with you  
throughout the year!*

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# TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## Bake a batch of sweet sugar cookies

Holiday baking is a tradition that stretches through time. What person doesn't look forward to the treats the season brings? Cookies are often gifted to friends and family members, and they usually help complete the dessert offerings after the holiday meal. Sugar cookies are an ideal holiday cookie because of their versatility. They can be dress-up however you see fit, whether cut, covered in sprinkles or enjoyed as they are dunked in hot cocoa. To make successful sugar cookies, try this triple-tested recipe courtesy of Monica Back and David Neussinger.

### Sugar Cookies

Yields: 4 dozen cookies

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1   | cup (2 sticks) butter (no substitutions), softened                             |
| 1/2 | cup sugar  |
| 1   | large egg  |
| 1   | teaspoon vanilla extract   |
| 3   | cups all-purpose flour   |
| 1   | teaspoon baking powder   |
| 1   | teaspoon salt  |
| 1/2 | teaspoon cream of tartar   |
|     | Decor: sugar crystals, silver dragées, holiday decors (optional: foodcoloring) |

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, with mixer on low speed, beat butter and sugar until blended. Increase speed to high; beat until light and creamy. On low speed, beat in egg and vanilla. Beat in flour, baking powder and salt until blended.
2. Divide dough into 4 equal pieces; flatten each piece into a disk. Wrap each disk with plastic wrap and refrigerate 1 hour or until dough is firm enough to roll. (To place dough in freezer: 30 minutes.)
3. On a lightly floured surface with a floured rolling pin, roll 1 piece of dough 1/8 inch thick. With floured 9-inch or 12-inch cookie cutters, cut dough into as many cookies as possible; wrap and refrigerate 15 minutes. Place cookies, 1 inch apart, on ungreased large cookie sheet.
4. Bake cookies 10 to 12 minutes or until lightly browned. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough and refrigerate 15 minutes.
5. When cookies are cool, decorate with frosting if you like, use along with sugars and candies to decorate cookies. Set cookies aside to allow frosting to dry completely, about 1 hour. Store in tightly covered container (with waxed paper between layers if decorated) at room temperature up to 2 weeks, or in freezer up to 3 months.



Sugar cookies and the holiday season often go hand-in-hand.

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MAY THE HOLIDAYS FILL YOU WITH LOVE & JOY

**CHRIS KNUTT**  
Councilor Ward 4



## TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings, joy and good fortune and all of those things! Merry Christmas!

# Pecan Pie Cheesecake



Recipe By Kraft

Prep Time	Total Time	Servings
15 min.	6 hr. 15 min.	16 servings, 1 piece (100g) each

### What You Need

- 1-1/4 cups graham crumbs
- 1/2 Tbsp. butter, melted, divided
- 3 pkg. (250 g each) Philadelphia Brick Cream Cheese, softened
- 1-1/4 cups packed brown sugar, divided
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 6 eggs, divided
- 1/4 cup dark corn syrup
- 1 cup coarsely chopped pecans

### Make It

- Heat oven to 350°F.
- Mix graham crumbs and 4 Tbsp. butter; press onto bottom of 9-inch springform pan.
- Beat cream cheese, 3/4 cup sugar and vanilla with mixer until blended. Add 3 eggs, 1 at a time, mixing on low speed after each; until just blended. Pour over crust.
- Bake 30 min. Meanwhile, mix remaining sugar and butter until blended. Beat in remaining eggs and corn syrup; stir in nuts. Remove cheesecake from oven; gently spoon nut mixture over cheesecake. Return to oven.
- Bake 40 min. or until nut mixture is set. Cool completely. Refrigerate at least 4 hours.

## Seasons Greetings

May the holidays find you surrounded by the warmth of good friends and the love of family members.

*All the best for a*  
**Merry Christmas & Happy 2016!**  
 - Mayor Wayne Redekop

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# TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## Ingredients

- 1 bag (12 ounces) fresh cranberries, for swizzle sticks
- 1 bunch mint, for swizzle sticks
- 2 cups freshly squeezed pomegranate juice (about five pomegranates)
- 3 cups freshly squeezed tangerine juice (about seven tangerines)
- 5 cups cranberry-juice cocktail
- 2 bottles (750 ml each) sparkling wine or Champagne

## Directions

1. Spear three cranberries alternately with two mint leaves on each wooden skewer. Place skewers on a baking sheet; cover with damp paper towels, and refrigerate up to one hour.
2. In a large punch bowl, stir together fruit juices. Fill the glasses with ice, and ladle about 1/2 cup punch into each glass; top with sparkling wine. Garnish each glass with a swizzle stick.

## Cook's Notes

Use a citrus reamer, juicer, or press to extract the pomegranate juice; strain liquid through a fine sieve set over a bowl, and discard solids. You will need sixty cranberries and twenty bamboo skewers to make swizzle sticks. Choose the size of the skewers based on the size of your serving glasses.

## A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON TO YOU AND YOURS!

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**Happy Holidays!**

During the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our success possible. It is in this spirit that we say: Thank you and best wishes for the Holidays and Happy New Year!

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**Peace to All**

May you and yours celebrate a season of joy and love with family and friends.

FORT ERIE KINSMEN



## TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## Overnight Ham and Cheese Omelet



"We enjoy this omelet every Christmas morning! Throw the ingredients together the night before, put it in the refrigerator, and pop it in the oven the next morning. So simple and delicious!"

### Directions

- Butter bottom and sides of a shallow roasting dish.
- Layer bread, Cheddar cheese, and ham in prepared roasting dish.
- Beat milk, eggs, thyme, salt, and black pepper together in a bowl.
- Pour egg mixture over bread mixture; cover and refrigerate 8 hours or overnight.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- Bake uncovered egg mixture in the preheated oven until center is set, about 1 hour. Allow to sit and cool for 15 minutes before serving.

Recipe By: Redheadchef

Prep Time	Cook	Ready In
15 min.	1 hr.	9 hr 30 min.

### Ingredients

- 1 teaspoon butter for greasing, or as needed
- 12 slices firm bread, discard crusts and cube bread
- 1 cup cubed Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup cubed ham • 3 cups milk
- 6 large eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

Family, friends and acquaintances: Wishing you the very best of the Holiday Season and New Year.

- Cathy Dennaflower & Family

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## happy holidays

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Sunday December 27<sup>th</sup> - 8:00am-3:00pm  
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## Holiday Wish

Wishing all of our customers a  
Blessed Christmas Season!  
- Peter and Susan Taras

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Merry Christmas

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Happy New Year



## TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE HOLIDAYS



Hope the coming holiday brings,  
joy and good fortune  
and all of those things!  
Merry Christmas!

## Christmas Cake



**Serves 6-8**

*This healthier Christmas Cake is alcohol free and packed full of dried fruit and nuts.*

### Ingredients

- 1 large orange
- 4 large eggs
- 3/4 cup agave nectar or honey
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 cups blanched almond flour
- 1/2 teaspoon celtic sea salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup dried apricots, chopped
- 1/2 cup pistachios, chopped
- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped

### Directions

1. Wash the orange and boil it whole (peel and all) for 1 1/2 hours, or until soft.
2. Place whole orange (peel and roll) in a food processor and blend until smooth.
3. Process in eggs, agave, almond extract, almond flour, salt and baking soda until well blended.
4. Transfer mixture to a bowl and stir in cranberries, apricots, pistachios and walnuts.
5. Pour mixture into a greased, almond flour dusted 9-inch springform pan.
6. If cake begins to brown on top before center is done, cover with tin foil.
7. Bake at 350° for 45-55 mins, or until a knife stuck in the center comes out clean.
8. Cool in the pan for 2 hours.
9. Serve.

*Happy Holidays*  
*from us to you*

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So that our employees and ourselves may be able to enjoy the holidays with our families, we will be practicing the following hours during the Christmas Holiday

**Wednesday, December 23, 8am-1pm**  
**Thursday, December 24 CLOSED**  
**Friday, December 25 CLOSED**  
**Saturday, December 26 CLOSED**

We will be resuming our regular business hours on Monday, December 28, 2015. We would like to take this opportunity, on the behalf of our staff and ourselves, to wish you and your family A Very Merry Christmas!

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Baked brie served with a pear jelly and  
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12 oz pork chop stuffed with a bacon and  
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• **Chicken Supreme \$32.99** •  
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• **Twin Lobsters \$49.99** •  
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LORRIE MACKENZIE/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Staff and students at St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School in Fort Erie, Ont. held a fundraiser in December 2015 and the proceeds will go toward helping people in need in Tanzania. From left, is Tatiana Smid, Father Patrick Gilmurray and St. Michael Parish, and Kennedy Mueller.

## Students send help to people in Tanzania

**LORRIE MACKENZIE**  
For St. Philomena Catholic  
Elementary School

St. Philomena School has adopted Mission Projects in Tanzania as one of its social justice priorities.

C.P.P.S. Mission Projects began in 1976 with a group of high school students from Ontario who raised funds to purchase a tractor for a village in Tanzania. Very early on, the scarcity of water was identified as the country's most pressing need. The mission established a base of operations and purchased equipment

to drill wells to meet the challenge.

Now, 40 years later, almost 600 wells have been drilled with over 90 per cent of them still producing today.

In 2007, the mission took steps to address the next most pressing need — education — and opened St. Gaspar Primary School.

Today, it is home to almost 900 children who, in addition to their education, receive two meals a day and two uniforms a year.

In January 2015, John Merlini High School opened its doors to the

first graduates of St. Gaspar School.

When full enrolment is reached in 2020 it will be home to over 600 students. On Dec. 8, students at St. Philomena held a Christmas Crafts Sale — a G.I.E.T. Shoppe — Giving Inspiration for Tanzania where crafts were made and sold to the students for family and friends.

A total of \$515 was raised in one day and will be sent with Father Patrick Gilmurray from St. Michael Parish when he returns to Tanzania.



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JOSEPH BURRO/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Fort Erie Meteors defeated the Thorold Blackhawks 6-1 Saturday, Dec. 19 at the Fort Erie Leisurplex in Fort Erie.



The Fort Erie Meteors defeated the Pelham Panthers 8-2 at the Fort Erie Leisurplex last Saturday.

# 'We were like warriors on ice'

**SARAH FERGUSON**  
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Meteors could be heard cheering inside their change room following Saturday night's victory over the Thorold Blackhawks.

The Meteors defeated the Blackhawks 6-1 at the Fort Erie Leisurplex in Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League Golden Horseshoe Conference action. "That was an easy game to coach," said a smiling head coach Rob Hubbard. "Our guys just played the game, they capitalized, they executed and congratulations (to them). Those guys deserve all the credit."

Forward Evan Krassey, who scored three goals for the Meteors, "thought (his team mates) worked pretty hard for being shorthanded."

"We were like warriors on ice," he said.

Ben Evans scored on a power play at 1:11 in the second period and earned three assists; Troy

Henley on a power play at 12:50 in the second period; Bryce Martin on a power play at 7:33 in the third period.

Holden Garland, Anthony Passero, Mackenzie Passero and Bryce Martin also recorded assists.

The Meteors stifled Thorold's power play, and did not give up a single goal while down a man. Aaron Nunes scored a single goal for Thorold. Tyler Sehwic and Greg Christmas assisted.

Hubbert described goaltender Riley Daniels "as solid" between the pipes. He saved 24 of 25 shots for the Meteors. Josh Astorino made 26 saves for Thorold on 32 shots.

The Meteors incurred 22 minutes in penalty time with six minors. Thorold racked up 26 minutes on nine infractions.

"You know what, wow. I am extremely pleased and proud with the way our guys battled," Hubbard said about Saturday's action on the ice.

The Meteors improved their

record to 14 wins, 16 losses and one tie for a total of 31 points.

Fort Erie will host Caledonia on Saturday, Jan. 2 at 7:15 p.m.

## Avalanche 5, Meteors 3

Danial Slinger record two goals, and Mackenzie Lockyer netted a single goal for the Meteors, who fell to the hosting Ancaster Avalanche on Dec. 17.

Owen Burnell scored two goals for the Avalanche; Ryan Cox, Michael Pollock and Ben Hughes scored single goals.

## Meteors 8, Panthers 2

Manny Manns netted two goals as the Fort Erie Meteors defeated the Pelham Panthers 8-2 on Dec. 12 at the Leisurplex.

Bryce Martin, Dakota Miskolczi, Mike Masotti, Ben Evans, Evan Krassey and Holden Garland

extremely pleased and proud with the way our guys battled," Hubbard said about Saturday's action on the ice.

Thomas Young and Jeffrey Venzon replied for the Panthers.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

# Christmas Worship Services



stjohnsstevensvilleunitedchurch.com

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

Ten refugees will soon be en route under the sponsorship of this great old church, with the first of them expected early in the new year. At St. John's-Stevensville United Church the 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service on December 25, will be dedicated to the refugees prior to their arrival, with relevant scriptures, carols, prayers and other elements. A special Christmas offering is dedicated to their support. St. John's-Stevensville United Church straddles the border between the cities of Niagara Falls and Fort Erie, so take QEW exit 16 or 17 to Sodom Road, and come early to get good seating and parking.

## Riverside Community Church

www.riversidecommunitychc.com  
905-871-0880  
2669 Niagara Parkway

## Family Christmas Eve

Service: Dec. 24, 6:30pm

Worship with us Sunday

Dec. 27 at 10:00am



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Christmas Eve Candlelight

Service Dec. 24th @ 7:00pm

St. Andrew's Knox

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11:00 a.m.

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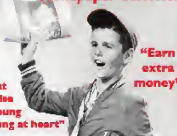
Fitters should be able to read and understand fabrication drawings, including weld symbols, nozzle layout and fitting, and head and shell layout and fitting. Plate rolling and operating a shear and brake press would be an asset.

Welders should have experience in GTAW, FCAW, GMAW and SMAW. Submerged arc welding and carbon arc gouging experience would be an asset. Additionally, Welders should have, or be capable of becoming CWB certified and possess the ability to read and understand weld symbols.

Please submit resumes to [mary.mccormack@esfox.com](mailto:mary.mccormack@esfox.com). Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Birthdays

Coming Events

Coming Events

Coming Events

**65th**  
**Wedding Anniversary**  
**ARNOLD & BETTY**  
**MARR**  
Open House  
 Stevensville  
 Conservation Ctr  
 2555 Ott Road  
 December 28, 2015  
 3:00pm - 6:00pm



**To Daddy**  
**Happy 40th Birthday!**



your Girl

Special Occasions

Special Occasions



Merry Christmas and Happy New Years!  
 Its been 4 long years  
 I haven't quit on you!  
 Lil "G"; Booty and Dudes  
 - Love, Dad

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Personal Notices

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Birthdays

Birthdays

Birthdays

Birthdays

**happy 10th birthday**  
**Chris Sims**



Love your family



**Happy Birthday JOSH!**

Thanks for everything you do!  
 You're the best son and friend  
 anyone could ask for!  
 Have a very Happy Birthday!  
 Love Mom, Bri, Fatty, Kitten and Oz



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 Ralph Waldo Emerson





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Obituaries

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This time of year provides opportunity for reflection. May memories comfort you and hope strengthen you during the holiday season.

*The Staff and families of  
 Benner Funeral Services  
 and Williams Funeral  
 Services*

**BENNETT, Donald Alfred (Donny)** - It is with great sadness that family of Donald announce his passing on December 18, 2015. Predeceased by two sons Jamie & Johnathon and his dear mother Bessie. Don is survived by his sons Mike (Laurie), Mark, Randy (Sylvia), his brother Gordie (Charlene), his Aunt Kathleen, his grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be missed by his many good friends on the racetrack and in his hometown. A special thank you to Dr. Scher and to his very special home care nurse Elizabeth Good bye Donny, Love Billie, Lynda, Yvonne and Herb Jr., Patty and Rick. Go now to be with all your great friends.

**BERGATT, Annemarie** - Annemarie passed away at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on Sunday December 13th at the age of 89. Predeceased by her husband Heinz and her daughter Monica. Survived by her son Manfred and grandsons Jason and Daniel. Also survived by her extended family in Germany. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Saturday December 19th from 10 am until the time of services in the Benner Funeral Chapel at 11 o'clock. If so desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

**GIANFRANCESCO, Giacinta** - Passed away surrounded by her loving family on Sunday December 20th, 2015 in her 87th year. Beloved wife of the late Vincenzo "Jimmy". Loving mother of Pasquale (Christine), JoAnne (Lorne) Black, Maria (the Late Bob) Pedgrew, Lena (Bruno) Settini and David (Susan). Cherished Nanna of Vincent, Raymond, Alicia, Kerry, Christopher and Andrea and proud great grandmother of Pasquale, Logan, Kai, Kosta and Bernard. Sadly missed by her sister Adelina and her many nieces, nephews and extended family. Giacinta was employed for many years at Ontario Bakery in Fort Erie. Benner Funeral Services, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Tuesday morning December 22nd from 10 am until the time of funeral services in the **BENNER FUNERAL CHAPEL** at 11 o'clock. Interment to follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family. The family express their appreciation for the professional and dignified care provided by Dr. Casardi, Dr. Harned and the nurses and staff of the Greater Niagara General Hospital.

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Joan Paul Richter



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Obituaries

Obituaries

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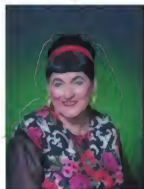
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Special In Memoriams

Special In Memoriams



**HUTTER, Rose Ruth "Ruthie"** (nee Henningham) - March 12, 1932 - December 19, 2015 - Passed away suddenly at the Greater Niagara General Hospital at the age of 83 with her grandson Rick by her side. Ruthie leaves behind her cherished and beloved daughter Linda (Rick Matthews), daughter Sharon (Gary Blakey), Grandchildren Rick, (Jolene Matthews), Kelly (Mike Russett), Dawn, Vaughan and Amber. Ruthie had several Great Grandchildren and Great Great grandchildren. Ruthie is predeceased by her sisters June, Lois, Donna, Nancy, Dorothy and her brother Harry as well as by her grandsons Jason and Ryan Larocque. Ruthie leaves behind her loving brother Bud Henningham, brothers-in-law Charlie Wenden and Earl Sostomi, and sister-in-law Annie Henningham. Ruthie was loved by so many; she had a wonderful gift of gab. She wore her heart on her sleeve. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held on January 8, 2016 at 2 PM at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 32 Idleywilde St. Fort Erie. In lieu of flowers donation can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES, 905-894-0120.**  
*Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come.  
 Thy will be done  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread,  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.*

**revere** the legacies left for us.

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In Memoriams

In Memoriams

In Loving Memory  
**MAE (OTTERMAN) RUTTER**  
 April 29, 1913 - December 23, 1995

*Those we love don't go away.  
 They walk beside us every day.  
 Unseen, unheard, but always near.  
 Still loved, still missed and forever dear.*

Lovingly remembered by:  
 Daughter, Robbie,  
 Granddaughters, Tracie,  
 Rebecca, Marlie and  
 Sister-in-law, Ruth



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**Marylou & Murray McGregor**

Everyday without you both  
 Since you had to go  
 Its like a summer without sunshine,  
 And Christmas without snow.

I'll always feel you close to me,  
 And though you're far from sight  
 I'll search for you among the stars  
 That shine on Christmas night.

Love Skip, Joanne, Trista

**Linda Everts**  
 1943 - 2014

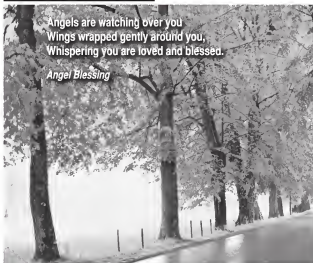
When someone you love becomes a  
 memory  
 Those memories become treasures.

Sadly missed by Shirley & Ken

*yourlifemoments.ca*

Angels are watching over you  
 Wings wrapped gently around you,  
 Whispering you are loved and blessed.

*Angel Blessing*



Share your moment... on *yourlifemoments.ca*





# HOME SWEET HOME PAGE

**The link to your community.**

With a dynamic new user experience featuring more content than ever, exciting new ways for you to contribute content, and simple social login capabilities, it's no wonder more people are calling our new community website home.





# BOXING DAY

## 3-DAY WEEKEND SALE!

**2 DAYS ONLY**  
**SATURDAY, DEC. 26 & SUNDAY, DEC. 27**  
*In Winkler and Steinbach, 30% will run on Sat., Dec. 26 and Sun., Dec. 27.*

Exclusive for Canadian Tire Options® MasterCard® & Options® World MasterCard® Cardholders



**30X**  
 e-CT MONEY™

**SATURDAY TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 26-28, 2015**

In Winkler and Steinbach, the sale will run on Sat., Mon. & Tues., Dec. 26, 28 & 29.  
 Hurry! While quantities last. Sorry, no rainchecks. Check your local store for holiday hours.

**SATURDAY DEC 26, ONLY! DOOR CRASHER**

**SPECIAL BUY**  
**169<sup>99</sup>**

SYLVANIA 32" LED HDTV.  
 1366 x 768p resolution.  
 2 HDMI ports and 3G-SDI.  
 720-4414-2.



**SAVE \$100**  
**BOSCH**  
**NOW 98<sup>88</sup>**

BOSCH 18V LI-ION DRILL, 2-speed.  
 0-400/1300 RPM. Keyless chuck. Includes 2 batteries and charger. 61-2617-4. Reg. 199.99

**SAVE 25%**  
**4-PACK**  
**NOW 13<sup>47</sup>\***

4-PACK RAIN-X DE-ICER -40°C WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID. 50-2869-0.  
 \*If bought separately, our Reg. price is \$4.49 each jug.

**SAVE \$20**

**NOW 69<sup>99</sup>**

1 KEURIG® 2.0 K200 COFFEE BREWING SYSTEM. Black or white, 45 oz. capacity. Reg. 89.99.  
 2 SAVE 25% 10-49 oz. SELECTED 18-COUNT KEURIG PODS. 61-4249. Reg. 13.99



**SAVE 75%**

**SPECIAL BUY 198<sup>99</sup>\***

11-PC LAGOSTINA BIANCO COOKSET WITH BONUS WOK. Swiss-formulated ceramic non-stick coating. Induction suitable. 200-202-4.  
 \*If bought separately, our Reg. price for cookset is \$499.99 and bonus Reg. price is \$39.99



**SAVE 70%**

**NOW 529<sup>99</sup>**

HORIZON CTS.4 TREADMILL. 2.25-CHP motor. 20 x 56" PerformanceFLEX deck. 61-0517-1. Reg. 1899.99



**SAVE \$200**

**NOW 99<sup>99</sup>**

17' MULTI-TASK LADDER. Converts to a step, extension, offset ladder and twin "A" frames. Grade 1A. Up to 300-lb capacity. 61-1050-8. Reg. 299.99



**SAVE UP TO 80%**

**on items on this page**  
**3 DAYS ONLY - Hurry In! While quantities last. Sorry, no rainchecks.**

**SAVE 75%**

**SPECIAL BUY 43<sup>88</sup>\***

LAGOSTINA BIANCO 2-PACK FRYPANS. 20cm and 24cm sizes. White ceramic, non-stick interior. Induction suitable. 100-202-5.  
 \*If bought separately, our Reg. price for 20cm frypan is \$99.99 and 24cm frypan Reg. price is \$119.99.



**SAVE 80%**

**NOW 24<sup>99</sup>**

100-PC SCREWDRIVER SET, includes magnetic parts tray, demotion driver and more. Ergonomic rubber grips. 61-0655-4. Reg. 129.99.  
 7.99 MASTERCRAFT 20-PC SCREWDRIVER SET. Ergonomic rubber handles. 67-0372-4. Reg. 39.99



**SAVE 70%**

**SPECIAL BUY 27<sup>99</sup>\***

AIR COMPRESSOR HOSE, 2-PACK. Lightweight, tough and highly flexible. 5/8" x 50', 300 PSI max. 200-190-4.  
 \*If bought separately, our Reg. price is \$24.99 each hose.



**SAVE 70%**

**NOW 94<sup>99</sup>**

183-PC BLACK CHROME-PLATED SOCKET SET. 1/2", 3/4" and 5/8" drive sizes as well as 6 wrenches. 58-0267-8. Reg. 349.99



**SAVE 70%**

**NOW 69<sup>99</sup>**

OUTBOUND 6-PIECE SPINNER LUGGAGE SET. Includes 27" upright spinner, 25" upright, 24" rolling duffel, 20" duffel, 21" tote and 6" toiletry kit. 76-2060-4. Reg. 209.99



**SAVE 70%**

**NOW 11<sup>99</sup>**

8-OUTLET POWER BAR. Two USB charging ports. 1A, 1500 joule surge protection. 62-2460-5. Reg. 39.99



**SAVE 65%**

**NOW 34<sup>99</sup>**

OBUS FORME HEAT AND MASSAGE CUSHION. 30" x 13" x 3". Reg. 99.99



**SAVE 65%**

**NOW 94<sup>99</sup>**

KITCHENAID 3-PC MIXING BOWL SET. Nest for easy storage. 142-5141-8. Reg. 299.99



**240 Garrison Road, 905-871-8081**



# Denny's

## Happy Holidays

Thank you for all the support over the past year.  
We look forward to seeing you over the Holiday Season.



### HOLIDAY TURKEY & DRESSING DINNER

Tender sliced turkey breast, savory stuffing, gravy and cranberry sauce. Served with your choice of two sides and dinner bread.

**1637 PETTIT ROAD, FORT ERIE 905.871.0777**